BIOGRAPHY

OF

MASTER EBRAHIM

SAAZ AUR AAWAZ

The musical world has introduced various ranges of musical instruments and clarionet is amongst one of them. Its significance has created an important place in music industry. From the ancient era the music has created its own identification. Basically clarionet came to India from Britain. We are going to introduce a man of very great value who is well known as clarionet artist named as MASTER EBRAHIM. [redacted]. Born in 1915 in Ajmer. He started to learn the clarionet at an early age of eleven years.

Having served at Shree Ranjit Movietone Company, Dadar, Bombay from 1934 to 1936. Leaving Shree Ranjit Movietone Company, he served All India Radio for a long span of six years while presenting his great art to the audience. Later on from 1942 he joined "HMV" a renowned music company of those days (HIS MASTER'S VOICE) and continued his best presentations spanning for two and half decades.

During his 25 years of association with HMV's artistes, singers and music directors for recording of songs and Quawwalis and played clarionet in almost six thousand records of 78 R.P.M. He used to convert the songs sung by playback singers (AMIR BAI KARNATAKI, JOHRABAI AMBALAWALI, LEELA SAWANT, B. S. NANJI, REHMAT BANU, ARUN KUMAR, SARASWATI DEVI, ASHOK KUMAR, PARUL GHOSH, SHYAM KUMAR, SURAIYA, KHURSHEED, ZEENAT BEGUM, MANJU, SHANTA APTE, ASIT BARAN, KANAN DEVI (KANAN BALA) SITARA KANPURWALI, HAMIDA BANU, RAJKUMARI, SHOBHANA SAMARTH, S.N.TRIPATHI, AKHTARI BAI, C. RAMCHANDRA, MOHD. RAFI, LATA MANGESHKAR, ASHA BHOSALE, KAMAL BAROT, SUMAN KALYANPUR, MUKESH, SHAMSHAD BEGUM, TALAT MEHMOOD, NOOR JAHAN, PRADEEP, UMA DEVI, MANNA DEY, KISHORE KUMAR, MAHENDRA KAPOOR) in his own clarionet very beautifully.

From the period between 1946 and 1974, he played on various classical ragas every month on his clarionet on contract basis with All India Radio. In early days HMV company released his records under the name of **E.R. ALI** and at later stages were released under the name of **MASTER AJMERI** in Colombia label. Also during the span of 1945 to 1970 HMV company released almost 250 records in 78 R.P.M. under the name of **"MASTER EBRAHIM"**

It was the first time in India when MASTER EBRAHIM introduced the instrumental version of the Indian film songs on clarionet. Whenever his tunes were played on clarionet musical version, it was clearly reflected the songs and the singers and enthralled the audience. Some of his best played version on clarionet are : Pyar Kiya to Darna Kya (**MUGHAL-E-AAZAM**), Aa Ja Re Pardesi (**MADHUMATI**), Nain Mile Chain Kahan (**BASANT BAHAR**), Dil Ka Khilona (**GOONJ UTHI SHAHNAI**), Le Ke Pehla Pehla Pyar (**CID**), Bholi Surat (**ALBELA**), Tu Pyar Ka Sagar Hai (**SEEMA**), Woh Dekho Jala Ghar Kisi Ka (**ANPADH**). In this way he mastered the technique of playing clarionet music for film song as well as Classical Ragas.

Everyone knows about **Radio Ceylon** (Now Shri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation). Many years ago when Radio Ceylon started its transmission at 7 O'Clock in the morning it used to play instrumental records of MASTER EBRAHIM on clarionet in the first 15 minutes. Quite frequently his clarionet tunes are broadcast through All India Radio and Radio Ceylon in their "SAAZ AUR AAWAZ" Programme.

MASTER EBHRAHIM took his basic education of classical music from the Stalverts of Golden era to mention few of them are **Banne Khan Meerutwale, Jiray Khan Panipatwale, Rafique Gazanvi, Dinkar Rao**. He was music director for two film's **PARBAT KI RANI** (1948), Leela Chitra Mandir Bombay, Director A Karim and **BIGRE DIL** (1949), produced by A. M. Khan, A. M. Khan Production, Bombay. For a long span of time he remained associated with so many music directors giving his unaccountable assistance. (1) **BHAI** (1944) Carvan Pictures, Lahor with **Ghulam Haider** and **Gulshan Sufi.** (2) **BEDAPAR** (1944) Jay Pictures Bombay with **Vasant Kumar Naidu.**

(3) **AINA** (1944) DRD Production Ltd, Bombay with **Gulshan Sufi** and **Fateh Ali Khan.** (4) **JUGNU** (1947) Shaukat Art Production, Bombay with **Firoz Nizami.** (5) **UTHO JAGO** (1947) Ratnakar Production, Bombay with **Aziz Khan.** (6) **BACHLOR HUSBAND** (1950) Laxmi Production, Bombay with **Saraswati Devi.** (7) **ACTOR** (1951) Sarosh Pictures, Bombay with **Aziz Hindi** are on this top list in this association. While turning the pages of his life history it would be of much more appreciation should we define his name as **CLARIONET NAWAZ.** His sons, **SALEEM, FAROOQUE** and **IQBAL** has inherited the art of music and are rendering good services to film industries as vibrophone artist.

Even after **30** years, to pay a tribute to great artist **"MASTER EBRAHIM"** H.M.V. sa re ga ma has produced a CD and Audio Cassettee under the title **"MELLOW GOLD"** a collection of 16 melodies tunes and **"LOVE TUNES ON CLARIONET"** 18 melodies tunes played by him. The audience will definitely love to listen it. The day of **20th September 1980** can't be forgotten in any circumstances when this great artist took the last breath and left us with tears.

It is an irreparable loss no one can fill up the gap he has left behind him. Undoubtedly he is no more amongst us but his music on clarionet will remain memorable in the heart of music lovers.

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